



Marshall wastewater experiment on board Discovery

Space Shuttle Discovery was launched last Thursday on a 10-day mission to the International Space Station. This is the first Shuttle mission of the year and the first Shuttle docking with the Space Station.

The Shuttle crew of seven multi-national astronauts is spending six days at the Space Station where they are transferring almost 2 tons of supplies to the Station and conducting a spacewalk to continue outfitting the facility. The Shuttle is expected to return to Earth Sunday.

One experiment being performed on board the Shuttle is the Volatile Removal Assembly. The assembly, developed and tested at Marshall and built by Hamilton Standard Space Systems International in Hartford, Conn., will eventually provide water for the crew aboard the Space Station. The experiment will assess

the assembly's performance in the near-weightless environment of space.

The assembly, an end-processor for wastewater, will remove impurities — such as lightweight, organic material and microorganisms. The flight experiment will help researchers predict how water and gaseous oxygen will interact in a packed bed reactor — a tube filled with catalyst particles — without the influences of gravity.

Weighing about 325 pounds, the experiment will occupy about one-half of a Spacehab rack, which is about 34 inches wide, 70 inches tall and 30 inches deep. About 60 gallons of water will be processed using a diluted solution of ethanol — a typical contaminant in wastewater from the water treatment system's ground experiments.

Marshall on the move

2,000 at Marshall relocate as part of reorganization

by Marianne Higgins

Some 2,000 NASA and contractor employees took part during the last week in one of the largest personnel relocations in Marshall's history. The move was the physical part of a just-completed, Centerwide reorganization to streamline the Center and improve customer service.

The move started May 25 as employees finished packing belongings. The moving crews then worked daily shifts May 26-31, while communications teams installed telephones, fax machines and computers overnight to have everything in place when employees returned to work Tuesday.

"Safety was the most important thing we needed to remember," said Sheila Cloud, director of Marshall's Center Operations Directorate.

Many employees took advantage of training opportunities available while their offices were relocated. The "Marshall on the Move" conference was held May 26-28 at the Von Braun Center and Calhoun Community College's Huntsville campus.



Photo by Doug Stoffer

Gary Swaffer of System Group of Nashville moves office furniture and equipment during the Marshall organizational move last week.

"'Marshall on the Move' provided a wide variety of productive training during the relocation, so many topics offered were applicable to everyone," said Greg Walker, director of the Employee and Organizational Development Office. "We also offered sessions of some mandatory classes, so employees won't have to

disrupt their work schedule to take them later."

See Move on page 5

"Better to be Safe than Sorry"
— Safety slogan submitted by
Beverly Robinson, CR20

Marshall scientist going to Romania to explain eclipse to Habitat workers

By Debra Valine

The upcoming total solar eclipse on Aug. 11 presents the perfect opportunity for one Marshall solar scientist to do two things he enjoys: talk about solar eclipses and build houses for people who need them.

Ed Reichmann, a solar scientist with Marshall's Space Sciences Laboratory, will travel to Romania July 30-Aug. 14 as Marshall's representative solar scientist. While there he will provide background on the eclipse to the expected 250 volunteers on-site for a blitz build with Habitat for Humanity. The group hopes to build 10 houses in two weeks.

"This is the last solar eclipse of the millennium," Reichmann said. "Solar eclipses happen all the time — anywhere from one to five per year, but never zero. In 2017, another solar eclipse of the same Saros series eclipse will occur across the Central United States." The eclipse Aug. 11 is a Saros 145 series solar eclipse.

"This eclipse will go through the major portion of Europe on Aug. 11, and can be viewed very well in the whole continent," Reichmann said. "It starts about 400 miles off New York in the Atlantic Ocean and ends at the end of the day in the Indian Ocean. The point of greatest eclipse is in Romania, near the Habitat location of the blitz build."

The Habitat Group doing the blitz build — or eclipse build — in Romania will take a bus tour to the point of maximum eclipse. While at the site, Reichmann will set up small Questar-type telescopes with solar filters that allow people to look directly at the Sun, and will provide special glasses that will allow people to view the eclipse.

He will explain the solar cycle, solar flares, how the Sun affects our local environment, how the aurora borealis plays havoc with the TV and radio signals, and how a solar flare might cause unpleasant effects on Earth. "I also will be helping people with cameras determine proper exposure settings to take pictures of the eclipse," Reichmann said.

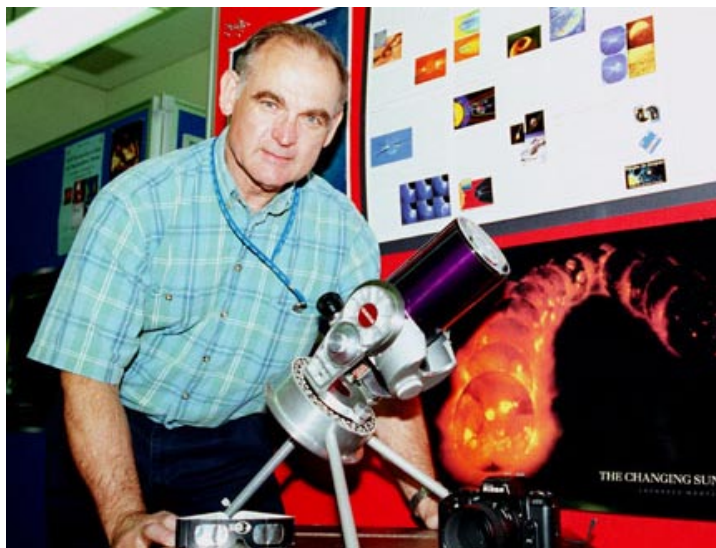


Photo by Adeline Byford

Marshall solar scientist Ed Reichmann will take telescopes, such as the one above, to Romania to allow volunteers building houses to view the total solar eclipse Aug. 11.

"I have been a very active participant in the local Habitat builds," he said. "During this build in Romania, 10 teams of 25 workers each will have responsibility for building one house." Habitat for Humanity has openings for about 20 volunteers to complete the goal of about 125 U.S. volunteers for the build in Romania.

Volunteers are responsible for their own expenses, including airfare.

And there is a foreign travel alert for the area due to the conflict in Yugoslavia. "I would like to not be there all by my lonesome," Reichmann said. His wife Darlene, an elementary school teacher, will be joining him on the trip.

The points of contact for Habitat for Humanity International in Americus, Ga., are John Yeatman at 1-800-422-4828, ext. 2513, or e-mail: john_F_yeatman@habitat.org; or Bill McCaffery at ext. 2137. A point of contact in Romania is Nora Liksai, who can be reached by e-mail at: nora_likesai@habitat.org. Habitat for Humanity is working with Global Village and Good Samaritan on this Eclipse Build project.

The writer, a contractor employed by ASRI, is the Marshall Star editor.



Bill Ramage

Ramage to manage integration of microgravity research projects aboard Space Station

Bill Ramage has been named assistant manager for Space Station Projects in Marshall's Microgravity Research Program Office where he will be responsible for managing and integrating the microgravity research projects planned for the International Space Station.

He has held various positions at Marshall in Science and Engineering, Management Systems, Program Development, Spacelab Payload Projects and Space Station Program Offices.

During his previous assignment he was attached

to the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, where he managed various International Space Station programs, including the Unpressurized Carriers Elements, Centrifuge Accommodations Module and Spacelab Pallet delivery missions.

Ramage said he "looks forward to working with the microgravity teams at Marshall," as well as those at the John H. Glenn Research Center at Lewis Field, Ohio; Johnson; and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

AdminSTAR provides valuable training management tool

by Janie McCrary

AdminSTAR is a commercial, off-the-shelf software program used at Marshall that allows civil service employees to enroll in training classes on-line.

AdminSTAR is made up of an Administrator module and a Learner module. The Administrator module is used by training administrators to schedule courses and manage student registration. The Learner module is used by students to sign-up for courses, check their course history and to develop a personal Individual Development Plan.

The Learner module is in production to the employee desktop only at Marshall but all Centers gradually will migrate to using the Learner module as well. The Learner module client can be either a PC or Mac.

The information is served via an Oracle 8 database, therefore, the following instructions must be followed to gain access for the first time user:

- Open the DDS Folder — Click Set-Up — Select Oracle ODBC 32 Set-Up by double clicking. It will install in a few seconds and you will need to restart your computer.

- To put AdminSTAR Learner Module on your desktop: Open the DDS Folder — Applications Folder — Drag AdminSTAR Learner Manager Icon to desktop. (It is a red A with a star in the center.)

- To log into AdminSTAR: Double click on the AdminSTAR Icon — Learner ID is your social security number without punctuation — the password is your first name. When you access the AdminSTAR Learner Manager at the Learners Supervised Screen you will see a note "NO DATA FOUND" click OK — To work in your own record click the "View Own Record" button.

- To Select your Approving Official: Click on the Approval By button — Select the appropriate official from the pick list — Click OK — Click Save

- To Change your Approving Official:

Prior to making a request you should Click on the Approval By button — Select the new approving official from the pick list — Click OK — Click Save (if you do not save the selection, the request will go to the prior official.)

A training request may be submitted in AdminSTAR in two ways either through the Catalog or the Class Calendar.

- To request training via the Catalog: In the "View Own Request" area, Click the Catalog button — Select Marshall Space Flight Center as the training region — Medium should be Courses Scheduled Courses — Click Retrieve. You will see the list of courses that have been scheduled for registration. To enroll Double Click the specific course you would like to take. Click Check Schedule — Highlight the course session that you are interested in — if the Status is OPEN Click Request — Type in the Purpose of Training — Click OK — the request is at the supervisor's desktop in their AdminSTAR database awaiting approval. Currently the employee should notify the supervisor that a training request needs to be approved. Once the supervisor has approved the request the Learner is on the roster in the Training Office.

- To request training via the Class Calendar: The Class Calendar button is used when you know the date that the class is to be offered. Click the Class Calendar then Scroll to the date that the specific class is being offered. Highlight the course on the calendar, notice the Status, if the class is OPEN click the Request button — Type in the Purpose of Training — Click OK — the request is at the supervisor's desktop in their AdminSTAR database awaiting approval. Currently the employee should notify the supervisor that a training request needs to be approved.

If you should have any problems with your AdminSTAR usage, call 544-7552.

The writer is the AdminSTAR systems administrator.

NASA News Briefs

Kathie L. Olsen selected as NASA chief scientist

Dr. Kathie L. Olsen, a biologist with the National Science Foundation, has been named NASA's chief scientist.

Olsen will be NASA Administrator Daniel Goldin's senior scientific adviser and principal interface with the national and international scientific community. She will be responsible for ensuring that NASA programs are universally regarded as scientifically and technologically valid.

She also will act as principal adviser to the administrator on the budget content of NASA's science programs. Olsen will place special emphasis on the biological sciences, particularly biomedical, neuroscience and life sciences.

Nobel Prize winner to lead Astrobiology Institute

Dr. Baruch Blumberg, distinguished professor, researcher, biochemist and winner of the 1976 Nobel prize for Physiology or Medicine, has been named director of NASA's Astrobiology Institute.

The institute comprises NASA Centers, universities and others dedicated to studying the origin, evolution, distribution and destiny of life in the universe.

As director of the institute, Blumberg will lead the new public-private partnership to promote and conduct astrobiology research and train young researchers. He will guide efforts to develop modern communication tools and information technologies to link far-flung science teams and laboratories.

Blumberg succeeds Interim Director Dr. Scott Hubbard, who continues in his role as deputy director of space.

Local stamp club promoting Saturn/Apollo history

For years the Huntsville Philatelic Club has promoted the history of the space program, especially the Marshall Center role, through stamp collecting.

This year the club will honor the 30th anniversary of Apollo 11 during its 32nd annual stamp show. The show, Huntspex '99, will be June 12-13 at Huntsville's Tom Bevil Center from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission to the show is free.

A special philatelic cover and postal

cancellation will be issued to honor the first human lunar landing. "The club selected Apollo 11 for its special cancellation because of the heavy involvement of engineers and scientists from the Marshall Center and Huntsville," said Amos Crisp, publicity coordinator for the club.

There will be a large area of stamp collection exhibits and dealer booths. The U.S. Postal Service will provide the official cancellation of the specially designed

envelope cover and will operate a booth with a wide variety of new issues.

A Saturn V vehicle managed by the Marshall Center launched Apollo 11. The Saturn roared to life at 9:32 a.m. EDT on July 16, 1969, at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida carrying astronauts Neil Armstrong, Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin and Michael Collins. The craft landed on the Moon July 20, and Armstrong became the first person to step on its surface.

Around Marshall

Two receive NASA College Scholarships

Two dependents of NASA employees will receive scholarships from the 1999 NASA College Scholarship Fund. The fund awards scholarships to dependents of NASA employees who are pursuing science or engineering majors.

Jennifer L. Kiessling is the daughter of Marshall team members Ed Kiessling, a structural materials engineer in the Nonmetallic Materials and Processes Group, and Janet Kiessling, a nurse practitioner at Marshall's Medical Center. Kiessling is a freshman attending the



Jennifer Kiessling

University of Alabama at Birmingham where she is majoring in electrical engineering and completing a biomedical engineering honors program.



Yvonne Parisa

Yvonne Parisa is the daughter of Roger Parisa, a project engineer in the Facilities Office, and Priscilla Parisa. She will attend the University of Missouri at Rolla, where she will study mining engineering.

Retirees, others invited to share Saturn/Apollo memories

Marshall retirees and others who participated in the era of the Saturn V moon rocket are invited to share their recollections of that era to be kept in the Center's historical archives.

The program — called the "Saturn V Self-Directed Oral History Project" — coincides with the 30th anniversary of Apollo 11, the mission that took humans to the surface of the Moon for the first time. The Marshall Center developed the Saturn V rocket that lifted Neil Armstrong, Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin and Michael Collins on their journey to the Moon.

The program also coincides with the upcoming 40th anniversary of the Marshall Center which was created in 1960.

"Over the years, historians have interviewed Saturn V participants firsthand to obtain information needed to prepare written histories," said Mike Wright, who is coordinating the oral history project for Marshall. "This represents a new way to collect first-hand recollections. The process involves inviting participants to first review a detailed set of questions about their experiences and then record their answers on cassette tape," he said.

"We are inviting interested participants to send to this office their own cassette tape with their recollections, a release form allowing use and a biographical sheet about their careers," Wright said. These documents will be incorporated into Marshall's historical archives for the use of researchers and others interested in the Center's role in developing the Saturn V.

Some tapes will be transcribed, and some may be used in connection with other activities at Marshall. The oral histories will become a permanent part of the archives, available to researchers interested in the history of the Saturn V. Some also may be transcribed and placed on the Internet.

Specific instructions and other documents on how to participate are listed on the Internet at: <http://www1.msfc.nasa.gov/INSIDE>

Those without internet access may contact Bob Jaques, CD40, Marshall Space Flight Center, Ala. 35812, by phone at 544-1256 or by e-mail at: bob.jaques@msfc.nasa.gov

Upcoming Events

Farewell Reception Planned for Joel Kearns — All employees, retirees and on-site contractors are invited to attend a farewell reception for Joel Kearns, manager of the Microgravity Research Program Office, on June 17 from 4-6 p.m. in the cafeteria of Bldg. 4203. Tickets, at \$7 each, can be purchased from your administrative officer or Joyce Wright, Bldg. 4201, room 119B through June 14. For more information, call Wright at 544-7577.

Information Technology Security Awareness Training — Information technology security employee basic awareness briefings for Marshall civil service and contractor supervisors are being held June 8, 16 and 24 from 9-10 a.m. in Morris Auditorium. Annual information technology security basic awareness training is required to be completed by all Marshall employees and on-site contractors. Copies of the training CD-ROM used in the briefing will be distributed to supervisors attending the sessions, so they will train their workgroups and report the employee participation for documentation of the FY '99 training. For more information, please contact Steve Jones at 544-4373.

Move

Continued from page 1

Marshall Deputy Director Carolyn Griner kicked off the training event May 26 with a town hall meeting to update employees on the latest Center projects. Motivational speakers Doug Krug, author of "Enlightened Leadership," and Lee Milteer, who spoke on how to "Design Your Own Destiny," also participated in the training.

Sessions such as team building, techniques for increasing productivity and computer software classes also were offered.

The writer, a contractor employed by ASRI, supports the Media Relations Office.



Photos by Doug Stoffer

Marshall Deputy Director Carolyn Griner opened the "Marshall on the Move" Training Conference with a town hall meeting May 26.



Dawn Maze, left, and Heath Banister of Scientific & Commercial Systems Corp. Temps assist with the move.



Pat Mirandy, a physical exercise specialist with the NASA Exchange, leads an exercise class at the Von Braun Center.

Carolyn Landry, left, and Debbie Scrivner from the Property Management Division model T-shirts that identified personnel involved in the move.

Employee Ads

Miscellaneous

- ★ Sears deluxe clothes dryer, white, \$100; 6-leg children's swing set, \$100; basketball goal, \$65. 881-6040
- ★ Riding lawnmower, 11hp, Homelite Jacobson, 5-speed, 28", electric start, \$100. 534-8186
- ★ Solid cherry Chippendale glass-top coffee table, \$175. 464-5774
- ★ 1991 Astro 17' fishing boat & trailer, model SCX17, 115hp Mercury motor, trolling motor, Hummingbird depthfinder, \$6,400. 881-8046
- ★ Rhode gear bike child carrier w/Blackburn mounting rack, \$50. 464-6933
- ★ Washer & dryer, 6 yrs. old, \$300; Regina carpet steamer, \$50; Mount Shasta mountain bike, \$175. 461-8689
- ★ Hoyt Raptor bow, fast-glass limbs, new strings/cables, micro-adjust rest, pendulum sight/silencers, \$255. 880-7305
- ★ Four 15x6 sport wheels, chrome trim rings, Dodge Dakota Sport or Chrysler product, \$35. 837-6109
- ★ Round table with glass top and four cane chairs with arms, \$225. 885-1771
- ★ 1999 McDonald's teenie beanies, \$65; 1998, \$80; 1997, \$95; patio table, chairs, umbrella, \$95. 971-0048
- ★ Motorola analog cell phone, leather case, charger, car adapter/charger, two batteries, \$35. 851-2929
- ★ Fiberglass camper shell, red, fits Nissan or Chevy S-10, \$200. 586-7797

Vehicles

- ★ 1969 Ford F-250 camper w/slide-in camper, V-8, 4-speed, gas/electric refrigerator, gas cooktop, oven, heat, \$3,000 obo. 883-2591
- ★ 1991 Mazda 626DX, 92K miles, \$3,900. 883-7564
- ★ 1991 Mazda Miata, air, power windows, ABS, 76K miles, \$6,500 obo. 726-8659
- ★ 1994 Mercury Sable LS, fully equipped, 61K miles, one owner, \$8,000. 852-6225
- ★ 1998 Dodge Caravan ES, all options, factory security system, 32K miles, \$22,500. 895-0703
- ★ 1996 Pontiac Firebird, red w/gray interior, 70K miles, auto/ac/cruise, new tires/brakes, \$10,500 negotiable. 582-3664
- ★ 1984 Mercedes Benz, \$4,000; 1975 Lincoln Continental, \$9,500; 1969 Plymouth Valiant, \$3,500. 881-8026

Center Announcements

- ☛ **Lunar Nooners Toastmasters Club** — The NASA Lunar Nooners Toastmasters Club will meet Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. in the Bldg. 4610 cafeteria conference room. All Marshall employees, contractors and friends are invited to attend. For more information, call Lee Johns at 544-5142.
- ☛ **American Express Vacation Office Closed** — Marshall's American Express Vacation office will be closed June 22-July 6. All deposits and final payments due during this timeframe should be paid before June 22. New vacation bookings may be booked by calling (407) 867-3927 or 1-800-851-8233.
- ☛ **Florida Tech Information Session** — Florida Institute of Technology will hold an information session for its master of science in computer information systems program June 23 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Seating is limited; call 881-7878 for reservations.
- ☛ **Astronaut Applications** — NASA is accepting applications for mission specialist and pilot astronaut candidates to join the Agency as it enters the era of the International Space Station and continues the exploration of space. Deadline to submit an application is July 1. An application package may be obtained by contacting the Astronaut Selection Office at (281) 483-5907, or writing to NASA-Johnson Space Center, Astronaut Selection Office, Mail Code AHX, Houston, TX, 77058-3696. Additional information on selection criteria and application forms are available electronically through the Astronaut Selection Office Website at <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/ah/jscjobs/aso/ascan.htm>
- ☛ **"Windmills" Training Program** — The Equal Opportunity Office is sponsoring the "Windmills Attitudinal Training Program" Thursday in Morris Auditorium. Sessions will be held 8-10 a.m., 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and 1:30-3:30 p.m. Richard K. Pimental, an expert on integrated disability management, return to work, workers' compensation, cost containment and attitude change, will discuss the perception of persons with disabilities, where these perceptions originated and how they affect behavior in the workplace. For more information, call Laura Groce at 544-9154 or Pat Schultz at 544-7559.
- ☛ **Program/Project Managers Training** — A course to familiarize program and project managers with the new NASA Program and Project Management Process will be taught June 15-16 at Marshall. The eight-hour class is limited to 25 participants, signed up on a first-

come basis. Civil service employees may register through AdminSTAR. For more information, call Stephanie Elliott at 544-7553 or Renee Higgins at 544-8864.

- ☛ **Housing for Summer Students** — Students at Marshall for summer educational programs have need of short-term lodging, particularly graduate students participating in the NASA Graduate Student Researchers Program. If interested in hosting or renting a room to a student during the summer or for short-term summer workshops, call Frank Brannon in the Education Programs Office at 544-5920.
- ☛ **Take Our Children to Work** — Marshall's Take Our Children to Work Day is June 24. Participation is open to children in grades 3-12. The day offers bus tours, balloons, photo opportunities and a pizza lunch at the Marshall picnic area. Cost for lunch is \$2 per person. Registration deadline is June 21. Register and order T-shirts electronically at: <http://ntf-1.msfc.nasa.gov/toctwd.nsf>
- ☛ **Redstone Toastmasters** — Do you want to improve your speech? Visit and join Redstone Toastmasters, which meets weekly at 6 p.m. on Tuesday at Morrison's Cafeteria in Madison Square Mall. For more information, call Joe Jones at 461-0476.
- ☛ **MARS Golf Club Tournament** — A golf tournament will be held Saturday at the Fox Run Golf Course in Meridianville. The format will be Skins with two 2-player teams in each foursome. Cost to enter is \$4. Entry deadline is May 28. The event is open to all NASA employees, retirees and on-site contractors. To enter, call Lee Foster at 544-1589, Joey Butler at 544-3808 or Bill Galloway at 544-0558. For more information, call Phil McKinnon at 544-0579.
- ☛ **MARS Fishing Club Results** — Results of the Wheeler Lake/Elk River tournament May 29 are: First place — Charlie Cothran and Alex Rawleigh with fish weighing 7.29 lbs.; second place — Charles Kilgore with fish weighing 5.61 lbs.; and third place — Rob and Josh Butler with fish weighing 4.70 lbs. Big fish honors went to Charlie Cothran with a 1.83-pound bass. The next Bass/Draw tournament is scheduled for June 12 at Guntersville Lake, Goosepond Ramp. For more information, call Charles Kilgore at 544-9437, Don McQueen at 544-9073, or Charlie Nola at 544-6367.

Marshall's annual picnic to be held July 17

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